Record of Decision

Date: April 4, 2014

Subject: Approval- Interagency Fuels Treatment Decision Support System (IFT-DSS)

Introduction/Background:

IFT-DSS will provide interagency users with an integrated, secure, web-based, service oriented architecture that organizes existing software tools into an integrated framework, making fuels treatment planning and analysis more effective, efficient and defensible.

Proposal

Transition IFT-DSS years (FY14-16) of Development /Modernization/Enhancements to Operations and Maintenance years (FY17 to FY20).

Relationship to Information &Technology Goals:

- ✓ Goal 1 – integrated solutions and services: IFT-DSS will provide interagency users the ability to access many different fire and fuels management software tools from a single web based portal.
- ✓ Goal 2 – improving accuracy of information-using a standards based approach: IFT-DSS will provide users with access to authoritative data resources and tools.
- ✓ Goal 3 – new approach to science: IFT-DSS is a scientific modeling framework that will enable the linkage of a variety of existing, independent models of vegetation information, fire behavior, fire effects, fuel treatment, and risk assessment.

Decision:

Kim Thorsen
WFIT EB Co-Chair

Jim Hubbard
WFIT EB Co-Chair

Decision: ☒ Approved ☐ Not Approved ☐ Conditional Approval

Additional Comments/Actions/Conditions:

Life Cycle Status:
Transition to mixed life cycle

Business Need Summary:
Software integration framework that manages pre-existing (and newly developed) software and management requirements to analyze and support decisions relating to fuels management and mitigation of wildfire risk. Current situation is a large array of fuels and risk systems.

Consistency with Business and Technical Architectures:
IFT-DSS system will create a standard and effective process for organizing currently stand-alone scientific fire and fuels management software tools so that data management inefficiencies are eliminated through consolidation and integration of existing investments. Shared framework will provide enhanced applications.

Feasibility Analysis:
JFSP has funded hosting, maintenance, and system administration of IFT-DSS.

Funding:
IFT-DSS is a mixed life cycle investment[1]. This means that IFT-DSS will have core functionality that will be ready for O&M by FY17 and will require a continued DME investment (development / modernization / enhancements) in order to integrate or become a platform for many existing systems. Table 1 depicts estimated cost to move core IFT-DSS functionality to a mixed life cycle investment. The transition costs also include necessary DME funds to provide the additional enhancements so IFT-DSS can meet risk-based fuels planning requirements.

Table 1 – Transition to a Mixed Life Cycle Investment

Description	FY2014 Transition to mixed life cycle[2]	FY2015 Transition to mixed life cycle	FY2016 Transition to mixed life cycle	FY2014-2016 Estimated Cost
User Support and Knowledge Transfer	0	85,000	85,000	170,000
Application Maintenance (e.g. backup, updates)	145,000[2]	224,000	120,000	489,000
Hardware and Hosting Services	150,000[2]	265,000	180,000	595,000
System Administration	35,000[2]	50,000	50,000	135,000
Project Management Support	35,000[3]	65,000	65,000	165,000
Security C&A (ATO)	0	100,000	50,000	150,000
DME[1]	500,000[4]	500,000[4]	350,000[4]	1,350,000[4]
Total:	**$865,000**	**$1,289,000**	**$900,000**	**$3,054,000**

[1]A mixed life-cycle investment means an investment having both development/modernization/enhancement (DME) and steady state components.
[2]JFSP has funded hosting, maintenance, and system administration of IFT-DSS until October 31, 2014

[3]DOI will cover costs of project manager in FY14.
[4]USFS will fund DME costs in FY14, FY15, and FY16. In FY15 and FY16 DOI and USFS will split all other non-DME costs.

Table 2 –Recommended Funding Sources

Agency	FY2014 Transition to mixed life cycle	FY2015 Transition to mixed life cycle	FY2016 Transition to mixed life cycle	FY2014-2016 Estimated Cost
USFS	500,000	894,500	625,000	2,019,500
DOI	35,000	394,500	275,000	704,000
JFSP	330,000	0	0	330,000
Total:	**$865,000**	**$1,289,000**	**$900,000**	**$3,054,000**

Table 3 shows estimated O&M and DME costs from FY2017 to FY2020. Starting in FY2017 all costs, including DME costs, will be shared 50/50 between DOI and USFS. DME funds will be used to complete any necessary enhancements to make IFT-DSS fully functional as a system of record and to support the integration of existing systems.

Table 3 – Mixed Life Cycle 50/50 Split USFS/DOI FY17 – FY20

Description	FY2017 O&M and DME Costs	FY2018 O&M and DME Costs	FY2019 O&M and DME Costs	FY2020 O&M and DME Costs	FY2017-2020 O&M and DME Costs
User Support and Knowledge Transfer	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	400,000
Application Maintenance (e.g. backup, updates)	125,000	125,000	125,000	125,000	500,000
Hardware and Hosting Services	65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	260,000
System Administration	55,000	55,000	55,000	55,000	220,000
Project Management Support	70,000	70,000	70,000	70,000	280,000
Security C&A (ATO)	50,000	0	0	30,000	80,000
DME	300,000	300,000	275,000	250,000	1,125,000
Total:	**$765,000**	**$715,000**	**$690,000**	**$695,000**	**$2,865,000**

Project Management:
Managing Partner: DOI/OWF
Business Leads: Erik Christiansen DOI/OWF and Tim Sexton FS/RD&A

Project Lead: Erik Christiansen, DOI/OWF.
Project Manager: Henry Bastian, DOI/OWF

Table 4 –Major Milestones

FY2014 Transition to mixed life cycle	FY2015 Transition to mixed life cycle	FY2016 Transition to mixed life cycle	FY2017 O&M and DME	FY2018 O&M and DME	FY2019 O&M and DME	FY2020 O&M and DME
$865,000	**$1,289,000**	**$900,000**	**$765,000**	**$715,000**	**$690,000**	**$695,000**

Operations & Maintenance Plan:
Sponsor: Interagency Fuels Committee

Program Board Recommendation:

Transition IFT-DSS for Development /Modernization/Enhancements (DME) and Operations and Maintenance (O&M) to fully meet fuels treatment planning requirements.

Fire Management Board Recommendation:

Invest to transition IFT-DSS (core capabilities) to operations and maintenance (O&M) status and enhance IFT-DSS to fully meet risk-based fuels treatment planning requirements. After development is complete, acceptance of steady state O&M via EB decision will be needed within the DOI EIC and FS IRDB frameworks.

Key Points/Discussion:

IFT-DSS is currently available as a functional web-based program. IFT-DSS will provide fuels treatment specialists with enhanced functional planning capabilities including, potentially the ability to demonstrate fuels treatment effectiveness. This new capability will address concerns from OMB that have resulted in reduced fuels budget requests in recent years. In addition the IFT-DSS Risk Assessment workflow will provide fuels specialists with a relatively easy process that they can learn and use with appropriate training without the need to hire expensive external consultants. IFT-DSS will provide vetted and accredited business workflow processes to agency fuels treatment specialists; these processes will be used to create and defend NEPA and non-NEPA decision documents. OMB 300 process and documents such as project plans and other critical management documents have been mostly completed for transition and are being entered into the portfolio. These documents will be updated as required during DME and O&M of the investment.

References:

See previous briefing materials.

Contact Information:

FMB and PB Chairs